



Energy Affordability & Accessibility Collaborative

Definitions
Subcommittee

Synia Gant-Jordan

Wende Randall

Mary Wilkins

June 28, 2023

AGENDA



Our Charge

Synia Gant-Jordan



Our Approach

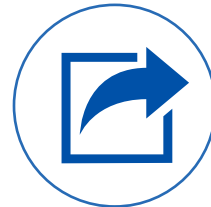
Synia Gant-Jordan



Your Thoughts and Ideas

Review of Survey Status

Wende Randall



Decide on Existing Definitions

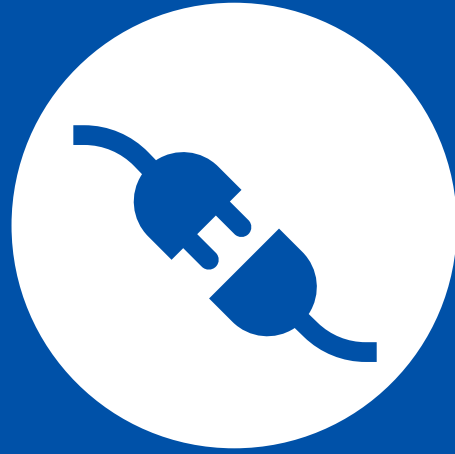
Equitable Treatment & Environmental Justice

Mary Wilkins



Next Steps

Mary Wilkins



OUR CHARGE

>> Our Charge

01 Define

Define 'Equity' and related terms per Case No. U-20836, pages 461-463/606.

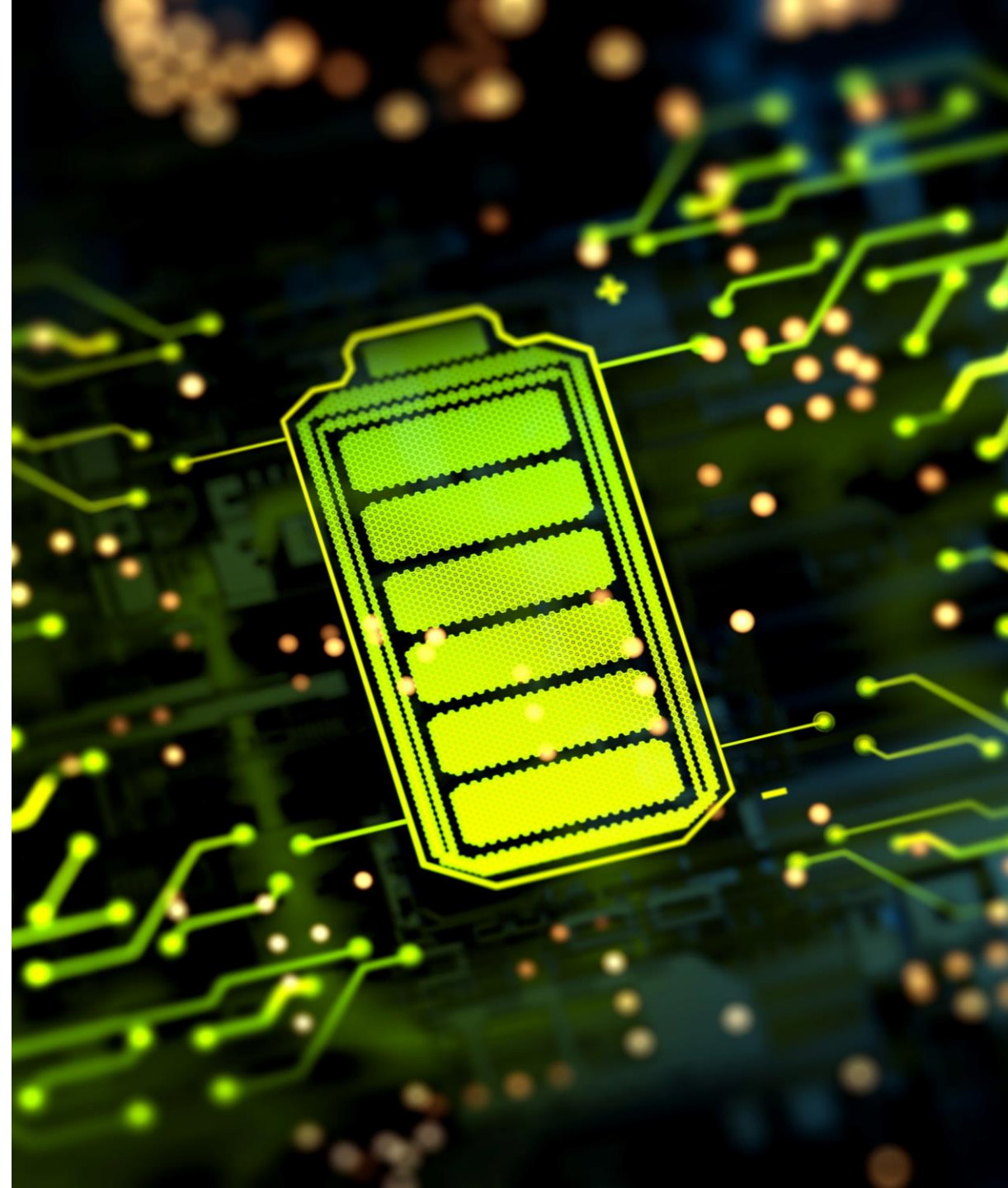
02 Consider

Take into consideration the proposed definition of energy affordability.

A household has the resources to meet their home energy needs for heating, cooling and other uses in a healthy, sustainable and energy efficient manner without compromising a household's ability to meet other basic needs

03 Define

Define 'equity,' 'environmental justice,' 'energy justice,' and 'grid equity.'



Shared Goals



To provide definitions for a common understanding of words and terms utilized in communication around low-income energy policy



To enhance and clarify understanding of defined words and terms.



In the defining of words and terms utilized in communication around low-income energy policy, broaden understanding of factors impacting low-income energy customers.



OUR APPROACH

Pledge to Position Ourselves for Progress

My stance toward others:

- Give others the benefit of the doubt
- Listen to others with respect, empathy and trust
- Demonstrate cultural humility toward others
- Be an ally and provide support
- Make it safe for others to speak up

My stance toward myself:

- Have the courage to show up and lean in
- If I am feeling offended, consider if and how to share
- Desire to understand and learn
- Engage in dialogue, not debate
- Ensure my voice is heard; it is important

Participation

Meaningful Involvement: People have an opportunity to participate in decisions that affect their environment and/or health; decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected; People's concerns are considered in decision-making processes; and People can influence state agency decisions.

- MiEJScreen slide deck, EGLE

Our Intent as a Subcommittee



To include the thoughts and opinions of individuals from identified communities in decision-making processes around these definitions.

To behave in ways that build trust.

To focus on what this subcommittee can influence:

- Terms to be defined by this subcommittee.
- These terms will inform discussions of equity and affordability in rate cases and the grid.
- Opportunity to create a feedback loop with those sharing thoughts and opinions.



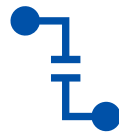
**YOUR THOUGHTS
AND IDEAS**

Defining Equity Process Survey



12 of 40 Subcommittee members have completed the survey.

Thank you to those who have completed; you have offered some great feedback!



Within the 12 there is a lack of consensus.



More responses are requested from committee members for moving forward.



Please take some time now to complete the survey.

Defining Equity Process Survey

Get as far as you can.

Finishing in...

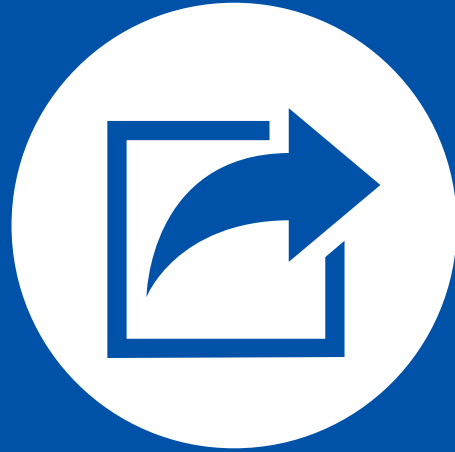
05:00

mins: secs: type: ▼

 Breaktime for PowerPoint by Flow Simulation Ltd.

Pin controls when stopped ☒





DECIDE EXISTING DEFINITIONS

State of Michigan Definitions

Defined

- Self-sufficiency
 - MEAP Workgroup
- Energy Affordability
 - EAAC Definitions Subcommittee
- Environmental Justice
 - MI Dept. of EGLE
- Equitable Treatment
 - MI Dept. of EGLE

Not Defined

- Energy Security
- Reliability
- Equity / Energy Equity
- Grid Equity
- Energy Justice

Definitions Created with MPSC Involvement

Self-Sufficiency

- *“A Household’s basic needs are being met while minimizing reliance on public assistance.”*
 - MEAP Workgroup 2: “Getting to a Definition of Self-sufficiency”
Presented to the EAAC by Kristin Bolds - June 2021

Energy Affordability

- *“A household has the resources to meet their home energy needs for heating, cooling and other uses in a healthy, sustainable and energy efficient manner without compromising a household’s ability to meet other basic needs.”*
 - Recommended by EAAC
Definitions Ad-hoc
Subcommittee – August 2022

Definitions Adopted by EGLE

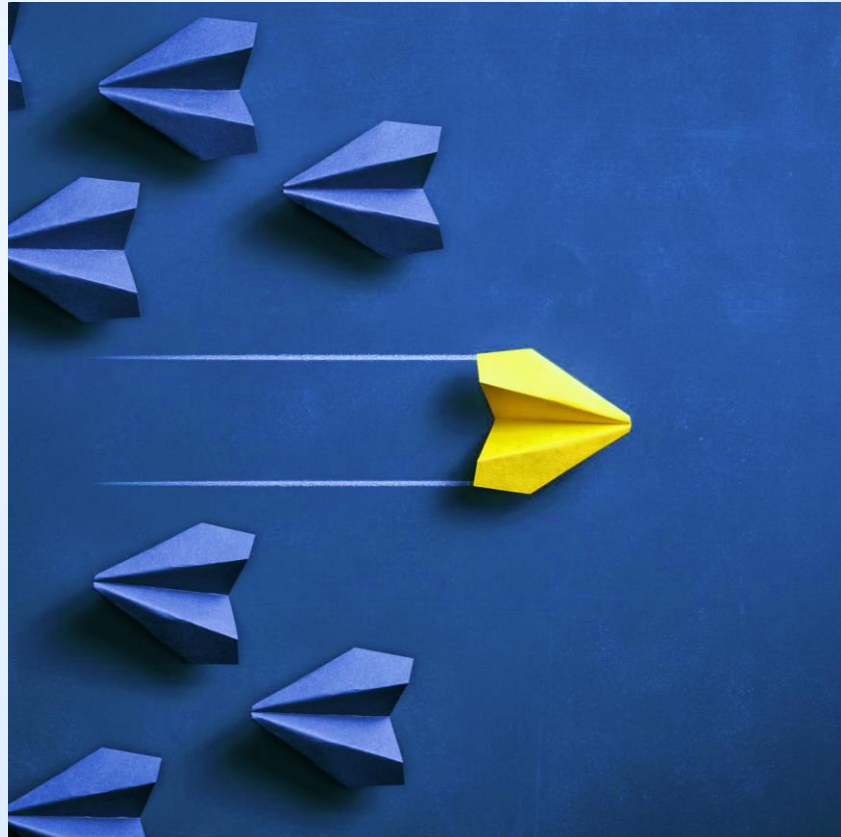
Equitable Treatment

- *“No group of people bears a disproportionate share of the negative consequences resulting from governmental, industrial or commercial operations and policies. All people benefit from the application of laws and regulations. Eliminating barriers such as poverty and lack of access, as well as repairing systemic injustices.”*
 - MiEJScreen slide deck, EGLE

Environmental Justice

- *“The equitable treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, ability or income and is critical to the development and application of laws, regulations, and policies that affect the environment, as well as the places people live, work, play, worship and learn.”*
 - MI Healthy Climate Plan, EGLE

Decision Points: Existing Definitions



Self-sufficiency – Accept Existing?

- Applies specifically to the Michigan Energy Assistance Program
- PA 615

Energy Affordability – Accept Existing?

- Work has already been done by this subcommittee
- Definitions confirmed via survey to stakeholder groups

Poll Re: EGLE Definitions

- Accept existing definitions and begin using
- Confirm each existing definition with identified communities
- Re-evaluate existing definition



NEXT STEPS

Next Steps



- If you haven't yet taken the Defining Equity Process Survey. Please do so now.
- July 19
 - Review and share results of the Defining Equity Process Survey
 - Review Definitions
 - Energy Reliability
 - Home Energy Security